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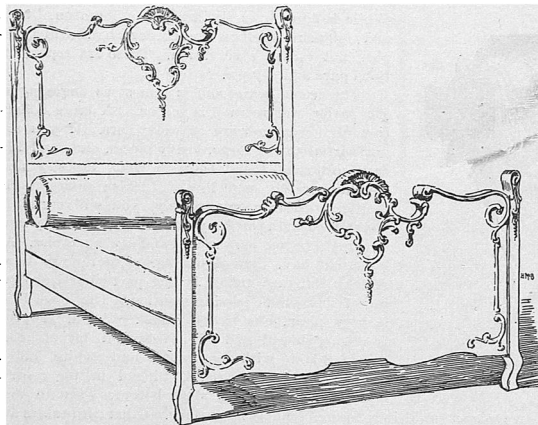
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# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

brass, the combination being exceptionally brilliant. The leaf is formed of a slab thirty inches by eighteen inches by one inch thick. The cloudings and shadings have that interior lustre characteristic of Mexican onyx, which makes it so valuable. They also show a sample of their latest gilt brass and onyx jardiniere stand, with revolving leaf in heavy cast gilt brass, by means of which a vase containing a plant can



BED IN THE ROCCO STYLE, BY THE OTTO FURNITURE CO.

be turned to the light constantly. The cabinets are constructed of finely selected and beautifully mottled, or clouded, onyx, that having a green color like jade being the most desirable. Their "five o'clock teas" are dainty table conceptions, consisting of kettle and stove in polished brass or copper, with standard attachment, the entire apparatus being useful as well as ornamental. The designs as a whole are most richly elaborate, and he would be hard to please who could not find something to meet his fancy in the choice selection of goods manufactured by the firm.

## OTTO FURNITURE COMPANY.

THE manufacturer of bedroom furniture who would have his goods popular, is compelled to compete with his fellow craftsmen in the constant production of original forms. There are some novel points about the bedstead illustrated herewith, now being exhibited by the Otto Furniture Company at the present exhibition, calculated to ensure the patronage of the general public. It is a typical American rendering of the Roccoco style now in fashionable demand, the lines being extremely graceful and the carving of that quantity and quality that will please the majority of purchasers. This bed, which forms the *piece de resistance* of a full suite, is made in curly birch, and can be had in mahogany, oak or maple, if desired.

The entire display of the Otto Furniture Company is crowded with chamber suites, sideboards, cheffoniers, ladies' dressing tables, etc., each article vying with the other in elegance of style and finish. All are of pleasing proportions and exhibit a careful interpretation of the requirements of the average American household, which are that the useful and the ornamental should find equal recognition in its belongings without undue prominence being accorded to either the one side or the other.

## J. HEALY CO.

PEOPLE in search of Oriental couches in plain coverings, ready for the artistic finishing touches of the amateur decorator, can obtain most luxurious designs among the Afghan divans and Hindoostan Madrid siesta couches, made by the firm of J. Healy Co., of this city, whose exhibit is one of the most attractive points in the entire exhibition. Their Duplex Wardrobe Couch opens from either side and can be used in the centre or any part of the room.

These couches are made from the practical demand of the wideawake dealer, who gives his customers all the advantages of modern science. The couch can be reversed, thus bringing the wear on both edges, instead of on one edge only, as in the old style couches. There is also shown a line of window seats and shoe boxes, one of the most interesting of the latter being in the shape of a drum, elegantly upholstered in tapestry or muslin.

## MAHER BROS.

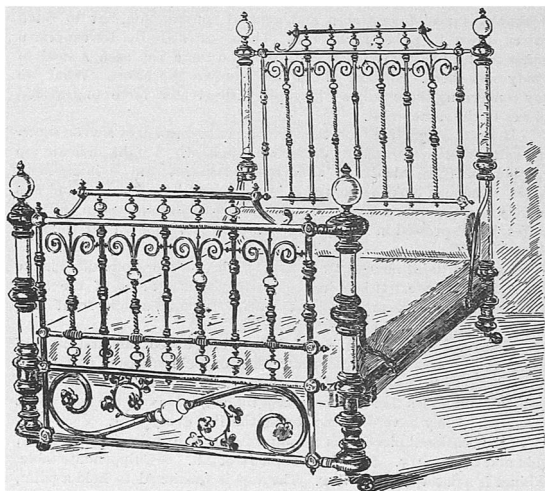
DECEMBER 20 of last year Maher Bros., of Medina, this State, had the misfortune to lose their manufacturing plant. All of the buildings, with the exception of the wood working shop, were swept away by fire. With the enterprise characteristic of the partners, they set to work immediately to make up their losses. Plans were prepared for the new structure to be built in such a way that if a similar catastrophe befell them, the ruin would not be total. Three independent structures have been erected. The first, a wooden building, was completed last May. This is 168 feet long, 45 feet wide, and contains three floors. It was built for the firm's couch, lounge and bed lounge business. The second building is of stone, brick and iron. It is four stories high, 158 feet long and 68 feet wide. It was completed and occupied last month. It was built for the manufacture of parlor suits and odd pieces. The third structure is an iron fire proof building, 40 x 65 feet, containing three floors. It is two hundred feet away from the factories and was designed for the storage of materials of all kinds used in manufacturing and for the storage of unfinished product.

The firm have come to the exposition with the initial line of the new plant, and are located on the main floor. Already it is one of the talked about lines of the seventh semi-annual show. Frank Maher, who has charge of the exhibit, says the goods in the exhibit are only a part of the new line designed for the Fall, and that everything has been finished since the factory buildings were completed. I don't know how many pieces Mr. Maher calls a full line, but there should be enough samples here to satisfy an ordinarily ambitious manufacturer. Just think for a moment. There are thirty-five different parlor suits, fifty-five distinct couches, lounges, bed couches and bed sofas, and sixty odd pieces. The goods are medium priced, none of the cheap, sloppy-made stuff that the markets know too well. The suits are very tastefully gotten up, both in upholstery treatment and in combination of fabrics. All coverings are used that furniture dealers have any use for.

## THE LEGGETT-GROVES FURNITURE CO.

THE exhibit of this New York firm, who are selling agents for various furniture manufacturers, is composed of a fine display of brass and iron bedsteads, manufactured by Oliver Brothers of Lockport, N. Y., and the reproductions of fine old Italian furniture made by Zucchi & Levazzo of this city.

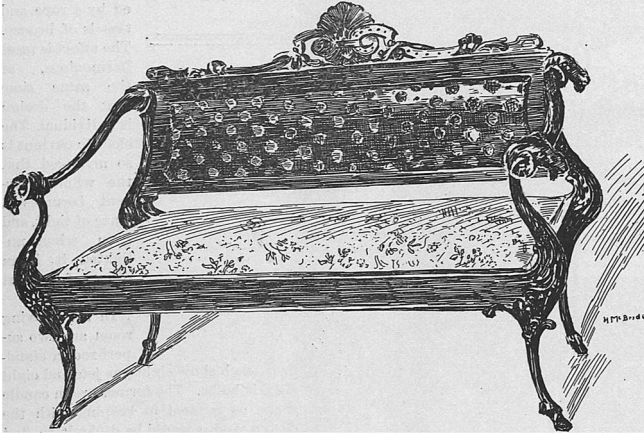
It is not easy to infuse originality into the manufacture of brass and iron bedsteads, as from the very nature of the material the designer is bound down to certain forms and combinations which restrict his genius, however brilliant it may be, but it is interesting to see what really can be done with the comparatively limited means which the bedstead maker has at command, and such a stock as that manufactured by Oliver Brothers is perhaps one of the most complete displays from which any buyer might be desirous of selecting his patterns. Bedsteads of iron, brass and iron, all brass and brass and Mexican onyx are seen in abundance, and the display altogether is up to date in every respect.



BRASS AND ONYX BED, BY OLIVER BROS.

Where the English manufacturers introduce symmetrical arrangements of mother-of-pearl in bedsteads of the better class, Oliver Brothers make use of the Mexican onyx. This idea is a most attractive one, and the judicious use of this beautiful natural product assists materially in decorating the otherwise somewhat monotonous appearance of the ordinary brass bedstead.

The most original feature of the display is their hanging canopy



ITALIAN DIVAN IN CARVED MAHOGANY. BY ZUCCHI & LAVEZZO.

for brass beds which is hung right above the bed, being suspended from the picture moulding above it. A canopy of this kind does not require any adjustment to the framework of the bed over which it hangs. As a furnishing scheme it is admirable, as it possesses the rare quality of universal use, and its introduction is a proof of the up to date enterprise that characterizes the productions of this progressive firm. We give an illustration of one of their brass and onyx beds, which is in itself a symbol of the modern development of taste that forms an appropriate excuse for such luxurious furnishings.

Italy has been celebrated in history, as well as in song and story, as the land of art, and the cognomens of the firm of Zucchi & Lavezzo betray the origin of the wonderful art furniture and fine and fancy furnishings manufactured by these gentlemen, which are incorporated in the exhibit of the Leggett-Groves Co.

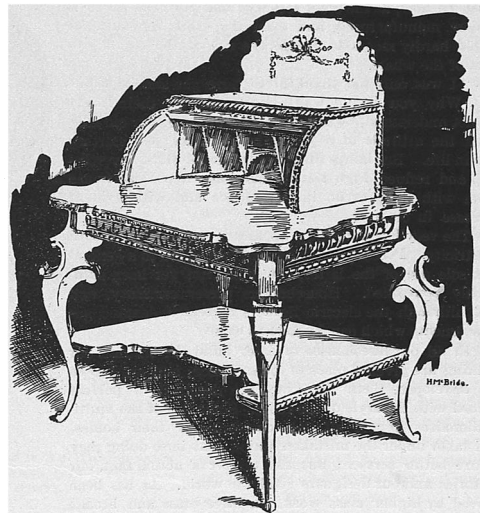
The modern demand for the reproduction of high-class antique furnishings suggested to these manufacturers the desirability of going back to first principles, and reproducing a line of furnishings based on Renaissance models. Their reproduction will be hailed with enthusiasm by those who consider quaintness a desirable qualification. Indeed, such sentiment is now very fashionable and promises to become still more so. Their chairs, settees, divans and cabinets are typical examples of the period of the Venetian Renaissance, and are throughout models of refined simplicity. They partake very largely of the classical element which began to make itself felt at that time; in fact, to the sixteenth century may be attributed the birth of the elegance and refinement which characterize the furniture of to-day. Many of the pieces are decorated with skillfully executed hand carvings and others with quaint designs in marquetry, most of the designs being executed in finely etched inlay of boxwood and celoid, a modern refinement unknown to the Raphaelites, but no less artistic, as it is indicative of American enterprise. It seems strange that such examples should have lain, ignored and neglected, for nearly three centuries, for want of the appreciation they so richly merit. The reappearance of these forms, which have more or less influenced the suites and chair frames of modern times, is a marvelous testimony to their artistic excellence. The variety of graceful shapes and forms to be met with in the designs of Renaissance furnishings is truly surprising, and indicates that the desire for novelty and original thought was in as much demand at that period as it is at the present time. The carved mahogany divan represented herewith, is one of the pieces for which Mr. Wright, who is in charge of the exhibit, has a special enthusiasm. Such goods have already taken the fancy of the trade, and with the advent of an improvement in the commercial situation, we predict for unique productions an enormous run of popularity.

S. P. PORTER.

THE largest section of the exhibition is devoted to the display of Mr. S. P. Porter, which includes the line of chambersuites made by the Hall and Lyon Furniture Co., the goods made by the Harrisburg Furniture Manufacturing Company, the Connorsville Cabinet Co., and other lines of goods of established merit. There is a fine display of library bookcases and combination bookcases and desks, produced in antique oak and curly birch, designed and finished in a manner calculated to captivate customers; a gents' chiffonnier, based on French line, with oval mirror, is an attractive novelty.

The entire display is a splendid achievement of talent, application and experience. The designs are all new and fresh, and in construction, selection of stock and beauty of finish are a great tribute to the artistic progress and mechanical capabilities of the furniture manufacturing trade.

Still another, and perhaps the most unique line of goods handled by Mr. Potter, is the line of boudoir toilet tables and ladies secretaires, manufactured by F. P. Cobham & Co., of Warren, Pa. The present fashionable infatuation for French forms and fancies is the *raison d'être* of the unique productions of the firm. Public taste is constantly demanding fresh thought at the hands of the furnishing community, and in the articles referred to, the designer has certainly asserted his right to a freedom of line altogether independent of constructional complications. To give our readers a correct idea of the form of the pieces in general, we represent a lady's fancy writing desk, made of veneered India satinwood, having pigeon hole conveniences, and a receptacle interiorly upholstered in rose silk, and exteriorly decorated with metallic enrichments in burnished gold finish. The roll-top cover is of embossed leather, showing the head of an animal with floral embossing. These three features of novelty of design, veneered cabinet work and leather tops, characterize all their desk pieces, the wood employed being rare satinwood, curly birch, birch burl, San Jago mahogany and figured mahogany. There is shown a boudoir toilet table in San Jago mahogany with gold bevelled edges and a lady's secretary in figured birch, rendered very effective with gilt enrichments of bow knot and borders. Such thoroughly fresh and attractive designs that stand midway between the more orthodox specimens of similar furniture and the more showy brass and onyx goods, ought to move well in the market.



LADIES' SECRETAIRE. BY F. P. COBHAM & CO.

TO decorate an interior entirely with architectural woodwork, is brutal; to decorate it entirely with drapery is womanish. The golden mean of woodwork and drapery is the manly method.